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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/226,577	01/07/1999	JACK CHANEY	SAM1.0058	9866

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EXAMINER

CALLAHAN, PAUL E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2137

DATE MAILED: 02/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/226,577	Applicant(s) CHANEY	
	Examiner Paul Callahan	Art Unit 2137	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-8 and 10-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1,3-8 and 10-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Claims 1, 3-8, and 10-14 are pending in this application and have been examined.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 7, 8, and 14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 3-8, and 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Girod et al. in view of Hartung et al.: "Multimedia Watermarking Techniques", Proceedings of the IEEE, Vol. 87, No. 7, 1999, page 1101.

As for claim 1, In their abstract, Girod et al. teach watermarking a compressed signal. In figure 1, the lower input is a digital signal, which is compressed by element 10 (see lines 47-62 of column 3 and line 60 of column 4 through line 21 of column 5 for a

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description of figure 1), thereby reading on clause a) of the claims. Element 26 watermarks the compressed signal; the watermark is inserted using a frequency spreading signal, which meets applicant's data signal representing copy protection data, while the watermarking operations read on the copy protection function. In the abstract, Girod et al. say that encryption/decryption capabilities can be included but does not specify how or where. Claim 8 and figure 4 make it clear that encryption is applied after compression and watermarking. Encryption is a type of scrambling and so clause c) is met. The reversal of these steps is implied by figures 1 and 2c. While Girod et al. specifically disclose decoding preceding removal of the watermark; these steps are interchangeable, as is understood from lines 7-10 of column 5. This is part of the benefit of Girod et al.'s watermarking method. As described at the top of column 9, removal of the watermark requires the sequence that was used to embed the watermark. Girod et al. do not indicate how the receiver acquires the sequence. In the first paragraph of page 1101, Hartung et al. describe appending a decryption key to an encrypted watermark in order to facilitate recovery of the encrypted information. This reads on the claim limitation of transmission of a scrambled signal and a data signal to a receiver for subsequent recovery of said scrambled signal. Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to include this feature of Hartung into the system of Girod. It would be desirable to do so to facilitate rapid recovery of the scrambled signal.

The cited section of Hartung et al. also renders claims 3 and 4 obvious. The elements of claims 5 and 6 are rendered obvious by the steps described by Girod et al.

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Claims 7, 8, and 10-14 are directed towards the same limitations as claims 1, and 3-6, therefore they are rejected on the same basis.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul E. Callahan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3869. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise, can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is: (571) 272-8300

2-1-06

Paul Callahan

Matthew Smithers
MATTHEW SMITHERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Art Unit 2137